

Patent Claims

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11. (New) A control device of at least one protective device for rollover protection for occupants of a motor vehicle, wherein the control device is provided with at least one rotational acceleration sensor for detecting a rotational acceleration about the longitudinal axis of the vehicle and at least one analyzer device for analyzing the detected rotational acceleration (angular acceleration), and for generating a control signal for the protective device for rollover protection of the occupants, said signal depending on the detected rotational acceleration.
12. (New) The control device according to claim 11, wherein the rotational acceleration is the only measured quantity relating to a rotation or inclination of the vehicle about the longitudinal vehicle axis.
13. (New) The control device according to claim 11, wherein the rotational acceleration sensor is a silicon micromechanical sensor.
14. (New) The control device according to claim 13, wherein the rotational acceleration sensor is a passive sensor designed as a micromechanical sensor unit.
15. (New) The control device according to claim 11, wherein the protective device has at least one occupant restraint device.
16. (New) The control device according to claim 15, wherein the occupant restraint device includes at least one side airbag.
17. (New) The control device according to claim 11, wherein the protective device has at least one activatable rollover protection device for head protection.

18. (New) The control device according to claim 11, wherein the control device has two redundant rotational acceleration sensors.
19. (New) A restraint system for protecting occupants of a vehicle, wherein the restraint system has at least one side airbag and one control device, the control device being provided with at least one rotational acceleration sensor for detecting a rotational acceleration about the longitudinal axis of the vehicle and at least one analyzer device for analyzing the detected rotational acceleration, and for generating a control signal for the side airbag, said signal depending on the detected rotational acceleration.
20. (New) A method for deploying a protective device for rollover protection of occupants for a motor vehicle, the method comprising the steps of
  - measuring a rotational acceleration about the longitudinal axis of the vehicle;
  - comparing the detected rotational acceleration or a quantity derived therefrom with a limit value,
  - generating a signal for deploying the protective device when the detected rotational acceleration or the quantity derived therefrom exceeds the limit value, and
  - deploying the protective device.
21. (New) The method according to claim 20, comprising the steps of
  - measuring a first and a second rotational acceleration;
  - comparing the two rotational accelerations or quantities derived therefrom with one another and,
  - depending on the result of the comparison, performing a plausibility check based on the comparison.